REACH HIGHER

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation

21st ANNUAL LEF GOLF SCRAMBLE THANK YOU!

With your help, we were able to raise $24,715.

READ MORE PAGE 4.

THANK YOU LANCER LEADERS!

Your support makes a world of difference.

READ MORE PAGE 2.

trustees

JC Anderson
Leslie Arbanas
Ryan Arnt
Sophie Bauchet
Ludo Beaufils
Kate Beckrow
Zeb Deitrich
Chad Deja
Greg Eding
Andrew Glisson
Janine Harrison
Lori Hellenga
Lori Marciniak
Sterling Massey
Elizabeth Meeth
Phil Molloy
Julia Pechtel
Jennifer Powers
Jim Roberts
Bill Scaletta
Lewis Scott
Kathleen Wolf

LANCER LEADER EVENT 2023

This past April, we hosted our annual Lancer Leader event recognizing those individuals and businesses that contribute $1,000 or more, annually, to support the mission of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.

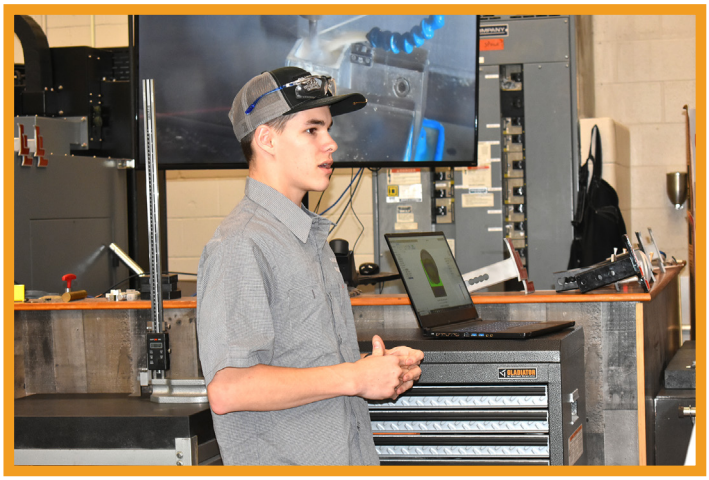
Attendees were treated to a tour of Lakeshore High School's Career & Technical Education Classrooms, including: HVAC, Electrical, CNA, Woods, Welding/MachineTool, Robotics/CAD and Automotive Technology before enjoying performances by Lakeshore Fine Arts students in the Jazz Band, Choir, and Dance programs. LHS Teacher Amy Perkins, and Superintendent Greg Eding, helped us kick off the event by sharing how contributions to the LEF impact every student, teacher and administrator, everyday! Thank you to all of you who choose to support the LEF - you truly make a difference and help all students reach higher!

To learn more about becoming a Lancer Leader, or to donate, visit: https://lefonline.org/

THANK YOU LANCER LEADERS!

Lancer Leader Jeff Martin and LEF Board Member Phil Molloy at the Lancer Leader event.

Lancer Leader Martha Thomas and Roosevelt Principal Rachel Kyncl enjoying lunch at the Lancer Leader event.

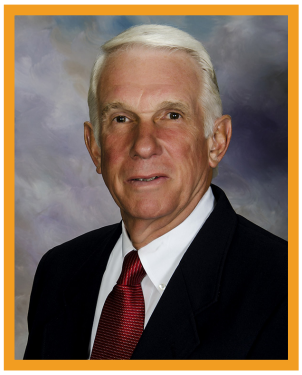


Student Leaders guiding the tour of Lakeshore High School's CTE classrooms.

Student Leaders showing Lancer Leaders one of the robotics robots in action.

NEW SCHOOL YEAR…NEW PROJECTS …AND YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

As we transition from our relaxed summertime activities to the new school year, I thought that I would reflect on our LEF activities:



J.C. Anderson, Chairman

1 Fundraisers…

We have had two (2) fundraisers which we consider successful, and many of you have helped achieve our goals by taking part in them. Our June 12th Golf Scramble netted $24,715 and the Cash Raffle should net us around $20,000, assuming that all of the 250 tickets are sold. If you haven't purchased your ticket(s) yet, you can contact any of our Board members before the September 18, 2023 drawing.

2 Major Projects…

During the summer, we have been working with Superintendent Greg Eding to identify the next few major projects that will enhance the learning experiences for the Lakeshore students, staff and community, while also meeting our LEF funding guidelines. Stay tuned for the announcement of our new projects sometime in September. These new projects will be our fund development focus for the next year or two.

3 Board Members…

We will welcome four (4) new Board members in our September meeting. **This is the largest initiation of new Board members that the LEF has ever had, and it makes me very happy.** When I agreed to join the LEF as Chairperson approximately 10 years ago, I was surprised at that time to see only eight active Board members and little recognition of the LEF organization by the administration, by the students, and within the community.

One of our strategic objectives became… "have the LEF perform in a manner that people are hearing great things about our work and want to become part of the mission." We are proud that the four new Board members have been motivated to join the LEF as a result of our more recent efforts.

While the mentioned activities are favorable, we recognize that the LEF is a "pipeline" for your investments in the educational experience of our students and staff at Lakeshore. We take our responsibility for the prudent investment of your contributions in effective grants and/or projects very seriously.

Our objective is to invest your contributions in a way that will create the greatest impact across our district.

We continue to invite your comments and/or suggestions regarding our operation and decision-making. Please give me a call (269) 921-2513 or write me a note (anderjcna@gmail.com) regarding any concerns that you may have about the LEF.

We're looking forward to the upcoming school year with great anticipation and hope we can count on your support this year so we can continue to make a positive impact throughout the Lakeshore School District.

J.C. Anderson

EMPOWERING EDUCATION

Lakeshore's one-to-one computing initiative reaches full implementation with district wide student laptop access for the 2023-24 school year.

Lakeshore's one-to-one initiative for computing at the elementary schools is finishing its final phase this fall. **Every Lakeshore elementary student will have their own district issued computer thanks to a donation from the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.** Kindergarten and first grade classrooms received their carts of touchscreen computers last fall. This summer, the district ordered 865 chrome books to distribute to all second through fifth grade classrooms. These computers are set-up and ready for use by the students to begin the 2023-24 school year.

LEF MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENT

THANK YOU GOLF SCRAMBLE SPONSORS

Thank you to all of our volunteers, donors, and teams who made this year's LEF Golf Scramble one of the best years yet! With your help, we were able to raise $24,715.

All proceeds go to support programs and grants for the students, staff, and community of Lakeshore Public Schools.

Eagle Sponsors
RMB Capital Management Inc.

Birdie Sponsors
Ace Hardware
Boelcke Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing
Brown & Luczak Family Dentistry
CPM Construction Inc.
Gaishin Manufacturing
Honor Credit Union
Owens Ames Kimbal
Ott Insurance Agency
Professional Hearing Services
Stifel
Wales Wealth Management Group

Par Sponsors
Hoopla Frozen Yogurt
Wightman

Hole Sponsors
Amy Avery in memory of Keith Avery
Bridgman Family Dental Care
Denny & Sue Dock
Dr. David Driscoll
Doubleday Office Products
J.C. Anderson
Jim Roberts Investment Advisors
Jim Roberts Enterprises
Lake Company LLC
Lakeshore CTE Program
The Marzke Family Foundation
Rachel Scholten - Century 21
Scott Berry Promotions
Tyler Honda
Great Lakes Eye Care

Donors
The Martin Family – Jeff, Carey, Alicen, & Knox Martin
Dr. Gary & Karen Campbell
Ted & Ann Dosch
CR Lawn Service
Jim Maier

Prize/Raffle Donors
Ace Hardware
Applebee's Bar & Grill
Biggby Coffee
Bit of Swiss
Boelcke Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing
Boulevard Hotel
Bread + Bar
The Brick House
The Buck Burgers & Brew
Competitive Edge
CPM Construction Inc.
Cracker Barrel
Fanatics
Full Circle Cafe
Grand Mere Inn
Harbor Shores Golf Club
Honor Credit Union
Hoopla Frozen Yogurt
Indian Lake Golf Course
Lakeshore Athletic Dept.
Lakeshore CTE Program
Lakeshore Store
Lake Michigan Hills Golf Course
Mark III Grille & Bar
Mason Jar Café
Old National Bank
Papa Vino's Italian Kitchen
Red Coach Donuts
Schu's Grill & Bar
Silver Beach Pizza
Silver Harbor Brewing
Sophia's House of Pancakes
Soft Touch Car Wash
Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra
Subway
Taylor Rental
Texas Corral
Tyler Honda
Watermark Brewing Co.

LEF LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

Excellent schools are the foundation of excellent communities. When you invest in Lakeshore Public Schools through the LEF, you are investing in the quality of life in our community both today and tomorrow.

LEF MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENT

THANK YOU GOLF SCRAMBLE SPONSORS

If you didn't get a chance to attend this year's event, but would still like to donate, visit: lefonline.org

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECOGNITION

Bob Adkins (Class of 1958)

Bob Adkins (Class of 1958)

Superintendent Greg Eding and Bob Adkins

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation and Lakeshore Alumni Association recognized this year's Distinguished Alumni recipient, Bob Adkins (Class of 1958) during a special ceremony this past June. Adkins was inducted into the esteemed group of alumni honorees with a plaque before he spoke to the Class of 2023 during the graduation ceremony. Congratulations to Bob for a lifetime of amazing accomplishments.

Read more about Bob's story at: lefonline.org/distinguished-alumni/

The Alumni Association takes great pride in recognizing our distinguished graduates.

We accept nominations from anyone interested in supporting a candidate for this prestigious award. Our selection committee—composed of alumni, a current school staff member, and a previous school principal—will carefully consider all nominees for a period of three years after their nomination, and you may re-nominate a candidate as many times as you wish. Visit lefonline.org to submit your nomination.

ALUMNI TUMBLER GIVEAWAY & YETI COOLER

We teamed-up with the Lakeshore Alumni Association to give away some fun parting gifts to the Class of 2023, this past June!

It was our way of congratulating all the graduating seniors at Lakeshore Public Schools for a job well done! Every graduate who signed up to join the Lakeshore Alumni Association was also entered into a drawing for a Lakeshore Lancer YETI Cooler. This year's winner was Emily Peters. Emily will be attending Belmont in the Fall, where she will play soccer! Congratulations Emily!

Lakeshore graduates interested in joining the Lakeshore Alumni Association can learn more and register at: lefonline.org/alumni/get-registered/

Emily Peters wins the YETI Cooler!

Alumni Tumbler Giveaway

Foundation Grant

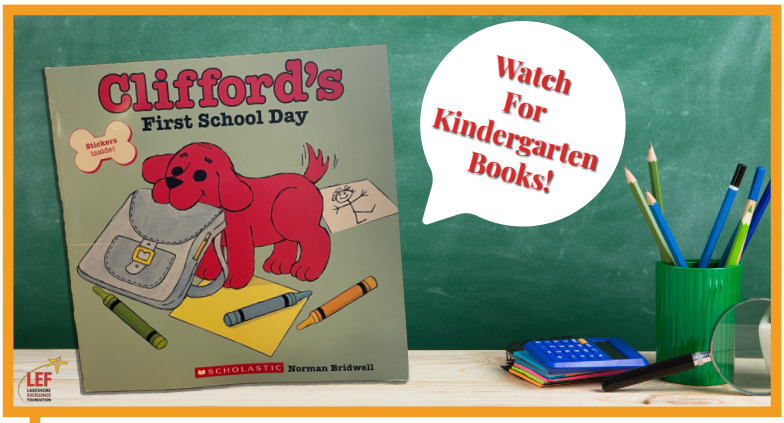
SCISSOR LIFT FOR LAKESHORE MAINTENANCE

Lakeshore's Operations Department is rising to new heights thanks to the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation. The group applied for a Foundation Grant to purchase a scissor lift. Staff can now perform maintenance projects at heights a ladder can't reach. This includes, among other things, hanging banners, lights, and fixing equipment in gyms across the district. Lakeshore Public Schools Director of Operations, Nick White, is grateful for what the new tool will mean in terms of protection for his team. "Thank you [LEF] for generously funding this scissor lift," says White. "This machine will allow for safe and efficient aerial work for many years to come!"

REACH HIGHER
Lakeshore Excellence Foundation

The Operations Department with the new scissor lift provided through the LEF Foundation Grant.

LEF KINDERGARTEN BOOKS INITIATIVE



The LEF is once again generously providing kindergarten and Young Fives students with a book during the *Taste of Kindergarten/Taste of Young Fives Day* that takes place August 28. This wonderful initiative aims to promote a love for reading from an early age, fostering literacy skills and imagination among the young learners. By gifting books, LEF is making a meaningful impact on the lives of these students, nurturing their intellectual growth and setting them on a path to lifelong learning.

Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grant

INTERACT CLUB - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TRIP

To learn more about our four grant options visit: lefonline.org/grants/

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation was proud to support a group of Lakeshore High School students in their quest to help people around the world live better, safer lives.

The students received **Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grants** to travel to the Dominican Republic, June 24th through July 1st, with the **Rotary sponsored Interact Club**. The purpose of Interact Club is to serve others, and build leadership skills, while discovering the power of putting others first.

This particular trip focused on a small village of Haitian families who have settled in the sugar cane fields (Bateys) of La Romana, Dominican Republic. While there, the Lakeshore students helped build a house, and spent time entertaining and educating the local children. They also brought plenty of donated items to share with the residents.

Kristy Mahlo, who serves as an advisor to Lakeshore's Interact Club, along with LEF Trustee, Bill Scaletta, said, "It's a great way for the students to understand another part of the world and life. This helps shape how they think about their community and has the added bonus of being a unique experience to reflect on for college applications."

Mahlo's daughter, Annalise, attended the trip to Dominican this year after receiving a grant from the LEF. Mahlo said her daughter loved playing with the kids and making new friends from other schools. Lakeshore sophomore, Tanner Hall, also received a Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grant. He echoed his classmate's sentiments saying his experience in the Dominican Republic is not one he will soon forget.

"I got to see first-hand what our work through Interact Club has done for the kids and families in the Batey," says Hall. "Not only was this trip super meaningful to the kids who call the Batey their home, it also had a big impact on me and opened my eyes to how different people around the world live their everyday lives."

The following Lakeshore students and parents attended this year's trip:
Ananya Bommineni - Class of '23
Alayna Chrispell - Class of '24
Tanner Hall - Class of '26
Jadyn Haynes - Class of '24
Laina Haynes - Class of '23
Abby Hoss - Class of '25
Annalise Mahlo - Class of '26
Scott Chrispell, Lakeshore Rotary Member and Chaperone

LEF Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grants are awarded for activities or events that promote self-improvement through exploration, discovery, study and interaction. This could include: workshops, retreats, camps or lessons, all of which could serve as a springboard to further exploration or mastery.

WEEKEND FOOD PACK PROGRAM

Food insecurity is a significant problem in the Lakeshore Public School district. Did you know that as of October 2022, an average of 33.7% of our elementary students had applied for free and reduced meals? Aside from the obvious side effects of food insecurity, educational proficiency suffers a great deal due to the lack of sufficient nutritious food.

Using a model from First Congregational Church in St. Joseph that began a weekend food pack program for the elementary schools in St. Joseph, and their previous experience with food pack programs, Stevensville United Methodist Church embarked on the same mission in the Lakeshore district. Beginning in April 2023, Lancer Lunches provides Lakeshore students with meals to help support their nutritional needs over the weekends. The funding for this program comes solely from the generosity of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, which donated $20,000 to this important cause. The dedicated team coordinating the program consists of Kellie Meyer, Sarah Melcher, Sandy Hayes, and LEF Trustee Lori Hellenga. They have a terrific volunteer group that gathers every Thursday afternoon to pack the bags so our Lancer kids can have meals all weekend!

There is a strong correlation between adequate nutrition and educational success. Thanks to the LEF and our volunteers, the Lakeshore community will be stronger and more successful than ever!

ART AROUND TOWN

Thank you for your support!

We had a great time celebrating some of Lakeshore Public Schools' finest young artists this past June at Curious Kids' Discovery Zone!

LEF Board Members, Superintendent Greg Eding, Lakeshore Art teachers, students, family, and friends gathered to recognize this year's Art Around Town winners! 20 students from Lakeshore's elementary, middle and high school were chosen after what is always a very difficult judging competition. We'd like to thank our amazing co-chairs,Tanya Mealman, Lauren Roberto, and Jill Phenegar for all they did to help make this year's event such a success.

Every one of these fine works of art was sponsored by an area business. They will be on display this summer at the Curious Kids' Museum, once it reopens to the public, and then be moved to the sponsoring businesses for the remainder of the year. Congratulations to all the artists on your wonderful works of art! To see more of the winning entries, visit our Facebook Page at: https://bit.ly/LEF23ART

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

BE BRAVE. TAKE RISKS.

Paulo Coelho once said, "Be Brave. Take Risks. Nothing can substitute experience." For the last 18 years, students have learned the value of this statement as they leave room 141 at Lakeshore High School. One word describes Alaina Kinney, the teacher in this classroom: Brave.

Alaina Kinney's goal is to start each day by making sure everyone is thriving, invested, and truly experiencing the world around them. Kinney not only does this for the hundreds of students she comes into contact with, but she also does this for all the animals she is responsible for on her farm. Originally studying to become a veterinarian, this is Kinney's 18th year at Lakeshore High School, where she has taught regular, Honors, and Advanced Placement English classes, but more importantly, she teaches through her various experiences.

Alaina Kinney, Lakeshore High School Teacher

"I originally wanted to be a vet, but quickly realized the math and science were going to be too much for me in college and had to change my career path. I loved English in high school and loved my English teacher. I have always enjoyed reading and writing so it was a natural fit. I love when we get to discuss whatever text we are reading and see what the kids bring to the discussion," Kinney states.

Her brave decision to switch majors turned out to be a great decision for both Kinney and for Lakeshore. An ***R. James Johnson Award*** recipient, member of the School Improvement Team, an AR (Association Representative) for the Lakeshore Education Association, and the National Honor Society (NHS) Advisor, Kinney also coached volleyball for eleven years and was a three-time class advisor.

A lover of traveling the world and learning about cultures, one of Kinney's favorite teaching experiences was winning the 2013-2014 Fulbright Teacher Exchange Grant. She left Stevensville and taught English to 6th-12th graders in Békés, Hungary. Her counterpart, Hungarian educator Gyuri Liptak, came to Lakeshore and taught Kinney's classes while she taught his classes half a world away. Kinney states, "That year was one of the best years of my life. Learning the education system in a different country was really interesting and watching the kids' growth in speaking English was incredibly rewarding. I loved learning all about a new culture and experiencing so many amazing opportunities." Again, another display of Kinney's bravery: this time moving to a country, not knowing a person or the language for the duration of a year and being a vegetarian in a country that prides itself on its meat products.

Back at home with experiences to share, Kinney continues to love her job. "Every hour is something new. Even if the class is the same, the kids change so there can be a completely different experience. Lakeshore is a wonderful place to work because of the support we offer all students. It is so important to provide various pathways for kids to feel accepted, valued, and successful in high school, whether that is through sports, CTE and the arts, or different clubs."

When she is not at school or grading papers, she is usually doing something on her small farm in Coloma, MI. Kinney said, "I have

Continued NEXT page

Continued BE BRAVE. TAKE RISKS.

two horses (Murray and Stella), two goats (Ben and Jerry), three dogs (Finn, Truman, and Quincy), one barn cat (Miller) and twelve chickens (all with old lady names). Most of the animals are rescue animals as that is a cause near and dear to my heart. Growing up I lived in the country and people would always drop dogs off at the end of our street and we would take them in and find homes for them (or keep them as we did twice!). That probably started my love for rescuing animals."

"Kinney took a huge risk in trying to manage her 12-acre farm and her successful full-time job. She thrives at both," says Suze Miller, a fellow English teacher at Lakeshore.

Alaina Kinney, Lakeshore High School Teacher

"As a teacher, it is so important to recognize and celebrate the diversity of all of my students. They all bring a unique set of experiences, skills, and dreams to my classroom and my job is to honor those and help foster success for them in whatever form that takes. I got into teaching because I really enjoy watching kids learn and be successful. The 'lightbulb' moment when something clicks for a kid or they feel successful is the best part of my day," Kinney states.

One of Kinney's greatest contributions to Lakeshore might be her new role: advisor of Prism. "Several years ago a student approached me and wanted to start a Gender and Sexuality Alliance club; I was immediately on board because Prism is another way to support a group of students. Usually, we have about 10-15 students at the meetings and discuss a wide variety of topics from current events, to LGBTQ rights around the world, to ways to make all students feel included at Lakeshore."

Former student Lauren Dalrymple said, "Ms. Kinney is one of those teachers who truly embodies why it's important to have educators with a passion for what they do. In my time at Lakeshore, I was fortunate enough to witness her positive impact on so many students, myself included. She offers guidance, support, and kindness to all students while making her classroom a safe space. Her joy for educating is truly part of what makes Lakeshore a special place. Teachers like Alaina are the kind of people who make me proud to call myself a Lancer."

The LEF is offering YOU a chance to win up to $3,000 cash!!!

REACH HIGHER RAFFLE

Purchase a cash raffle ticket (or 2 or 3) for $100 each as part of our fundraising effort in support of the Lakeshore Public Schools. Only 250 tickets will be sold with the following cash prizes.

$3,000--1st prize drawn on September 18
$1,500--2nd prize drawn on September 18
$ 500--3rd prize drawn on September 18

An Excellent way to support Lakeshore Public Schools and win cash, it's a WIN/WIN!

Just send us an email with the number of tickets you would like to purchase and we can deliver right to you. Contact: lesliearbanas@yahoo.com or janineharrison88@gmail.com
Hurry, and good luck!!

THANK YOU!

BIGGBY COFFEE

THANK YOU TO **BIGGBY COFFEE OF STEVENSVILLE**
FOR DONATING NEARLY $400 TO LEF
THROUGH THEIR MAY 4TH FUNDRAISER

REACH HIGHER
Lakeshore Excellence Foundation

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation
ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund is our long-term strategy to funding the LEF mission of learning for generations to come.

Annually, the LEF Board evaluates the health of the fund, makes contributions based on giving and project needs, and reinvests the earned interest. If you are interested in learning more about the Endowment Fund, please contact J.C. Anderson at (269) 921-2513 or email at anderjcna@gmail.com.

Ways to keep in touch ...

1. Join the Lakeshore High School Alumni Facebook Group:
   Search for "Lakeshore High School Alumni" and Join the Group

2. Register on the LEF website for email updates:
   lefonline.org/alumni/get-registered

If you graduated from Lakeshore High School, this is a great way to stay in touch!

LAKESHORE Alumni

LEF
LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

Learn more about LEF.

Visit our website: LEFonline.org
Follow us on Facebook @LakeshoreExcellence
Read our newsletter in the Lakeshore Light
Contact our Chairman, J.C. Anderson (anderjcna@gmail.com)